

Message Text

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22

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 /111 W

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R 292020Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8605

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

PANCANAL

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 5285

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, KN, KS, PN

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: POSSIBLE UNGA DEBATE ON KOREA -
APPROACHES IN PANAMA

REF: PANAMA 4496

1. CORE GROUP WAS CONVENED BY UK CHAIRMAN ON JULY 28.
JAPAN, FRG, COSTA RICA, KOREA, UK AND US CONSIDERED
APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIONS TO FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD ON
KOREAN ISSUE BY JULY 29, PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF PANAMANIAN
DELEGATION FOR SRI LANKA, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUC-
TIONS RECEIVED BY UK AMBASSADOR FROM UKUN.

2. THE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BY CHAIRMAN WERE: (A)
A JOINT NOTE DELIVERED BY THE UK AMBASSADOR AS CHAIRMAN
OF LOCAL CORE GROUP; (B) SIX AMBASSADORS OF CORE GROUP
JOINTLY CALLING ON FOREIGN MINISTER; OR (C) THE BRITISH
AMBASSADOR DELIVERING SIX NOTES TO FOREIGN MINISTER AS
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REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CORE COUNTRIES. AFTER CONSIDERABLE

DISCUSSION, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED BY THE AMBASSADOR OF KOREA WOULD CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 29 AND DELIVER THIRD PERSON NOTES FROM EACH OF THE GOVERNMENTS MAKING UP THE CORE GROUP IN PANAMA. THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR WILL REQUEST THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO DELIVER THESE NOTES TO GENERAL TORRIJOS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR SRI LANKA.

3. ALL CONCURRED THAT ANY REPRESENTATION BY THE CORE GROUP GOVERNMENTS AT THIS TIME WOULD HAVE ONLY MINIMAL IMPACT ON THE GOP POSITION AT SRI LANKA. GOP GOALS AND INTERESTS AT SRI LANKA ARE DEEMED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TIED TO OBTAINING STRONG THIRD WORLD SUPPORT FOR PANAMA IN THE CANAL NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT GENERAL TORRIJOS WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY DECIDE GOP POSITION ON KOREA AND OTHER ISSUES IN LIGHT OF WHAT IS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN THAT SUPPORT. NONETHELESS ALL FELT THAT POSITION OF CORE GROUP ON KOREA SHOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO THE GENERAL.

4. UK CHAIRMAN EMPHASIZED THAT THIS ACTION SHOULD BE LOOKED UPON AS "NOT MUCH PRESSURE AT THIS TIME" BUT AS SETTING THE STAGE FOR STRONGER JOINT ACTION PRIOR TO THE CONVENING OF THE UNGA IN SEPTEMBER. HE POINTED OUT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER BOYD WOULD BE REPRESENTING GOP AT THE UNGA AND THAT DELIVERY OF NOTES ON JULY 29 WILL HAVE LAID THE GROUNDWORK WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER FOR FURTHER DEMARCHE(S) AFTER SRI LANKA AND BEFORE THE UNGA.

5. THE NOTE DELIVERED ON BEHALF OF THE USG IS IDENTICAL TO THE DEMARCHE MADE ON JUNE 25, 1976 AND REPORTED REFTEL, TOGETHER WITH THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE SECRETARY ON KOREA IN HIS JULY 22, 1976 SPEECH AT SEATTLE.

6. COMMENT: THE STRATEGY BEING FOLLOWED ESSENTIALLY CONFORMS TO THAT SET FORTH IN REFTEL 4496. OUR PERCEPTION OF GOP ACTION AT COLOMBO IS SHARED BY ALL MEMBERS OF CORE GROUP, WITH OUR CLEAR INTENT TO CENTER LOBBYING EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF ROK IN THE PERIOD AFTER SRI LANKA AND BEFORE THE UNGA.

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